

M E M O R A N D U M

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD • CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

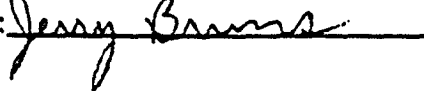
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To: Carol Howe
CALFED

From: Jerry Bruns, Chief
Standards, Policies and Special
Studies Section

Date: 25 April 1997

Signature: 

WQ targets

Subject: *Ecosystem Water Quality Target Subcommittee*

On 16 April, I met with Terry Barry, J.P. Cativiela and Steve Murrill to make recommendations regarding ecosystem water quality targets. In general, our recommendation was that CALFED should use Basin Plan objectives (Region 2 or Region 5, as appropriate) and US EPA promulgated National Toxics Rule or soon to be promulgated California Toxics Rule standards. This would provide water column reference targets for the Delta and both rivers for cadmium, copper, mercury, selenium, DDT, PCBs, Toxaphene, ammonia, dissolved oxygen and turbidity. For fish tissue, we recommend using the NAS guidance numbers. This would provide tissue targets for mercury, DDT, PCBs, and Toxaphene. We did not make a recommendation regarding appropriate selenium tissue target levels. There is no NAS guidance criteria for selenium. The San Luis Drain Reuse Technical Advisory Committee has recommended selenium ecological risk guidelines for tissue that may be appropriate.

The Regional Board is in the process of developing a water quality objective for carbofuran. In conformance with the previously stated rationale, when adopted, the objective would be an appropriate target. We were unable to reach a consensus on what target values would be appropriate for diazinon and chlorpyrifos.

We did not make any recommendation regarding sediment targets. There are no Basin Plan objectives or US EPA standards. Sediment information has been collected from the Great Lakes and in San Francisco Bay that may be useful in screening for potential problems in the Delta. We should evaluate this information and consider developing criteria that would be appropriate for the Delta.

For unknown toxicity, the narrative statements in the Basin Plans should be used. These both essentially say that toxics shall not be present in toxic amounts.

Please call me at 916-255-3093 if you have any questions about our recommendations.

cc: J. P. Cativiela, California Rice Industry Assoc.
Terry Barry, Department of Pesticide Regulation
Steve Murrill, Steve Murrill and Co.